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SECRET WARS

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED!

•

THE HEROES OF EARTH-616 AND EARTH-1610 WERE POWERLESS TO SAVE IT!

•

NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS **BATTLEWORLD!**

A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

•

AMONG THESE DOMAINS IS ONE LEFT DECIMATED BY WAR BETWEEN ITS HEROES AND VILLAINS. IN THIS BARREN WASTELAND WALKS A SHADOW FROM THE PAST, A MAN KNOWN AS...

OLD MAN LOGAN

50 YEARS AGO, THE HEROES FELL IN A WAR AGAINST THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THEIR FOES. THOSE THAT REMAINED WENT INTO HIDING. ONE OF THOSE SURVIVORS WAS THE MAN CALLED LOGAN. A MAN HAUNTED BY A PAST IN WHICH HE WAS MANIPULATED INTO KILLING ALL OF HIS FELLOW X-MEN. ONE WHO HAD SWORN NEVER TO UNLEASH HIS CLAWS AGAIN. BUT WHEN HIS FAMILY WAS KILLED BY THE MURDEROUS HULK GANG, LOGAN ACCEPTED THE MANTLE OF HERO ONCE AGAIN.

•

WHEN HIS WORK WAS INTERRUPTED BY THE HEAD OF A FOREIGN ULTRON UNIT FELL FROM THE SKY, LOGAN CHOSE TO SEEK OUT THE SOURCE OF THE ULTRON HEAD HIMSELF, AND CLIMBED THE WALL THAT ENCIRCLES THE DOMAIN HE KNOWS AS HOME.

•

BUT UPON REACHING THE TOP OF THE WALL, LOGAN ENCOUNTERED A THOR, ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF BATTLEWORLD'S POLICE FORCE, WHO INFORMED HIM THAT TRAVEL BETWEEN DOMAINS IS FORBIDDEN WITHOUT PERMISSION. THEIR BATTLE CAUSED LOGAN TO FALL INTO THE NEIGHBORING DOMAIN, WHERE HE WAS RESCUED BY STRANGELY ALTERED VERSIONS OF THE FRIENDS THAT HE HAD ONCE MASSACRED. BUT LOGAN BARELY HAD TIME TO GATHER HIMSELF BEFORE THEY WERE ATTACKED, AND THE HORRIFIC TRUTH OF THIS STRANGE LAND WAS MADE CLEAR TO HIM, AS HE ENCOUNTERED ITS RULER, ONE OF THE X-MEN'S GREATEST FOES, APOCALYPSE.

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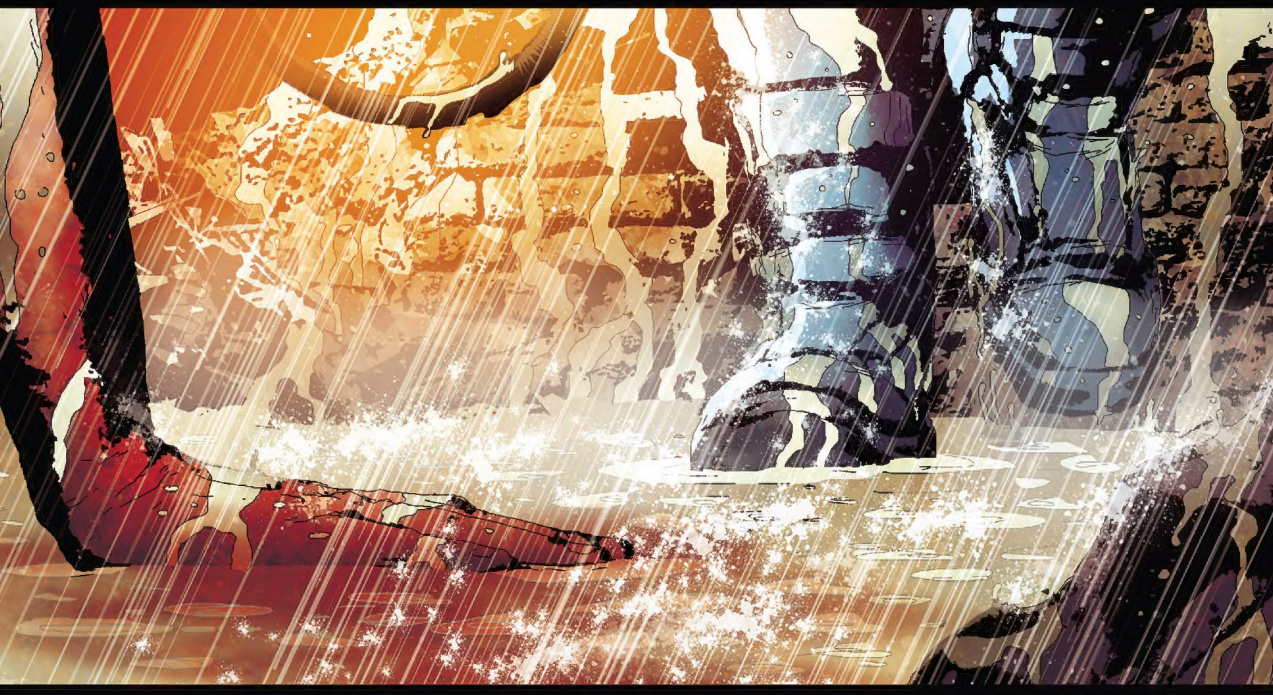
OLD MAN LOGAN



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THE DOMAIN OF APOCALYPSE.

I AM APOCALYPSE

ALL YOU CAN SEE IS MINE.

AND YOU: WOLVERINE...

YET OLD.

YOU CONFUSE ME.

WHAT *ARE* YOU?

THIS IS NOT RIGHT.

YOU ARE NOT RIGHT.

X-MEN...

...THAT OLD LOGAN IS IN REAL TROUBLE.

FINE.

DON'T ANSWER ME...

...I WILL DEAL WITH YOU *POSTHUMOUSLY*.

YOU WILL CEASE, BARON APOCALYPSE...

THIS ONE IS NOT YOUR CONCERN, BARON APOCALYPSE.

YOUR BATTLE IS DONE!!!

DISPERSE NOW OR FEEL THE PUNISHMENT OF DOOM'S OWN HAND!!

UH-OH...

THOR, WHAT *IS* THIS?

THIS AGED WOLVERINE... AND NOW *YOU* APPEAR?

THIS IS PERPLEXING.

IT IS BEING ATTENDED TO.

WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

THIS IS A MATTER FOR BARON DOOM.

I RESPECT THAT.

BUT YOU ENTER *MY* KINGDOM AND ORDER *MY* HORSEMEN.

I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT THIS IS.

IT IS A MATTER FOR LORD DOOM AND ONLY--

WE SHALL SEE...

ARE YOU *THREATENING* ME, BARON APOCALYPSE?

LET'S CALL IT A FIRM BUT FAIR WARNING.

I WILL REPORT IT AS SUCH.

YOU DO THAT...

...BUT HE'S GONE.

WHICH WAY DID HE GO?!

I, *UH*, WAS WATCHING YOU.

SORRY, I'VE NEVER SEEN A THOR BEFORE!

YOU X-MEN!!!

I ASKED: *WHICH WAY?*

HE IS AN X-MAN!!

HE IS ONE OF US.

WHAT DO *YOU* WANT WITH HIM?

INSUBORDINATE!

KRAKABOOM
I DON'T CARE WHO SENT YOU HERE...YOU DO NOT LAY HANDS ON MY HORSEMEN!!
INFINITES, PUNISH HER!!
UGH!
NUUGH!
HNF
HNF
AGGH...
DOES IT HURT?

IT LOOKS LIKE IT HURTS.
M'ALRIGHT.
YOU *REALLY* NEED A DOCTOR.
I JUST NEED TA SIT.
AM I NUTS OR'R YOU HEALIN'?
NOT AS FAST AS I USED TA.
YOU LOOK LIKE SOMEONE.
SO DO YOU. YER NAME BOOM BOOM?
TABITHA.
TABITHA. RIGHT.
YOU *HEALED.*
THAT'S *CRAZY.*
HOW DID IT ALL GET LIKE THIS?
LIKE WHAT?
THIS.
IT'S *ALWAYS* BEEN LIKE THIS.
BOOM
NOT ALWAYS.

ALWAYS T'ME.
HOLD ON...
HEY...
SHUT IT.
WOW.
WHISPER... A THOR.
KEEZY, WHAT DID YOU DO?
SEE YA, KID.
STAY OUTTA TROUBLE.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD.
YEAH...
...LORD KNOWS I TRIED.

LOGAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
EMMA FROST?
JUST IN YOUR HEAD. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IF YER IN MY HEAD, YA ALREADY KNOW.
I KNOW YOU ARE HUNTING A THORSGUARD.
SHE STARTED IT.
TO GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM YOU NEED TO TURN BACK THE OTHER WAY.
YOU'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY...
M'NOT.
NOT UNTIL I UNDERSTAND THIS.
I'D HELP YOU BUT--
YOU GOT YER OWN THING.
DON'T SWEAT IT, FROST.
IT WAS GOOD TO TALK TO YA AGAIN.
EVEN IN WHATEVER THIS ALL IS.
BUT DO ME A FAVOR...

THERE'S A NEW MUTANT DOWN THERE.
TABITHA SMITH.
SHE'LL CALL HERSELF BOOM BOOM.
PICK HER UP.
SAVE HER.
LOOKIN' FER ME, GOAT GIRL?!
SNIKT
GUAARRGGHH!!!
CHUCK

YOU WILL NOT TOUCH ME!
I AM A THOR!!
YOU WILL NOT TOUCH ME!
KRAKOOM
BOOM
LORD DOOM WOULD NOT APPROVE OF WHAT YOU HAVE FORCED ME TO DO.
I WILL CLEAN THIS MESS AND THEN--
DAMN YOU, APOCALYPSE!!!
WHAT NOW?

STAR

HE SHOULD HAVE WOKEN UP BY NOW.
HE SHOULD BE DEAD.
WELL, YES.
BUT I MEAN IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS--
HOW ARE HIS VITALS, BARON STARK?
BETTER THAN MINE.
I WAS RIGHT TO BRING HIM HERE.
DAMN RIGHT, YOU WERE RIGHT.
OH, HEY, THERE HE IS...
VERY GLAD YOU DECIDED TO JOIN US, OLD MAN.
I HAVE A GREAT MANY QUESTIONS FOR YOU.
DOOM WILL WANT TO SEE THIS, BARON STARK.
I WOULD IMAGINE SO, GRAND MARSHALL RHODES...
SO, WHAT'S YOUR STORY, OLD TIMER?
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
WHY IS THERE ADAMANTIUM ATTACHED TO YOUR BONE STRUCTURE?
AND HOW MUCH FOR IT?
I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS.
I AM CRAZY RICH.
CAREFUL.
YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT.
CARE TO TELL ME HOW OR WHY?
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
DO YOU SPEAK ENGLISH?
WHERE AM I?
WOW, YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW...
...WELL...
...YOU'RE IN MY PART OF THE WORLD. YOU'RE IN...

TECHNOPOLIS.

I TAKE IT YOU'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE.

OF COURSE HE'S NOT.

YOU KNOW HE CAME OVER THE WALL AFTER HE ENGAGED ONE OF MY FELLOW--

I'D LIKE TO HEAR HIM TELL IT.

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

TONY STARK.

I'M SO FAMOUS.

THEY EVEN KNOW ME OVER LORD DOOM'S WALL.

LORD DOOM?

DO YOU HAVE ISSUE WITH LORD DOOM?

OF COURSE NOT.
WHY WOULD I?
STOP BEING PARANOID, RHODEY.
AND NO FIGHTING IN MY OFFICE.
I JUST HAD THE ARMORS POLISHED.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
MISUNDERSTANDING WITH A GOAT HEADED THOR.
HAPPENS.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
YOUR BODY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM IS FIGHTING THE DEADLY TECH VIRUS IN OUR ATMOSPHERE TO A STANDSTILL, BUT HOW?
I APPRECIATE THE HOSPITALITY BUT I--
I'M GOING TA BE ON MY WAY.
I DON'T THINK SO.
AGAIN, THANKS FER LETTING ME HEAL UP.
YOU'RE NOT LEAVING.
I MEAN, YOU WANDER AROUND OUR DOMAIN WITHOUT ARMOR AND THE VIRUS WILL KILL YOU EVENTUALLY.
WELL, MAYBE NOT YOU, BUT YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF BACK IN A PICKLE.
YOU'VE KEPT IT AT BAY, SO FAR AT LEAST, BUT YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET FAR.
YOU NEED ARMOR OUT THERE.
WELL, CAN I HAVE SOME?
YOU SEEM TA HAVE PLENTY.
I CAN'T LET YOU JUST LEAVE.
YOU ATTACKED A THOR.
YOU'VE LEFT YOUR DOMAIN WITHOUT PERMISSION.
WITHOUT PERMISSION?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I THINK IT'S A STAND-OFF, BUT...
NO, IT AIN'T.
I'VE COME A LONG WAY...
...I'M TIRED.
CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING TO EAT?
SIT? TALK?
I'D LIKE TA MEET HIM.
WHO?
DOOM.

I DON'T SEE THAT HAPPENING.

PROBLEM IS, OLD MAN, YOU LEFT YOUR DOMAIN IT'S **FORBIDDEN.**

THERE'S THAT WORD AGAIN.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO DOOM IF YOU MET HIM?

WHAT WOULD I SAY...

I WOULD SAY I'VE LIVED MOST OF MY LIFE HAUNTED BY THE THINGS I'VE DONE.

HAUNTED BY THE THINGS THE WORLD FORCED ME TA DO.

BUT TODAY-- TODAY I'VE SEEN THINGS--

I'VE SEEN THINGS AND PEOPLE AND PLACES THAT--

THAT WHAT?

MY NAME'S JAMES HOWLETT.

SOME PEOPLE CALLED ME LOGAN.

SOME PEOPLE CALLED ME WOLVERINE.

YOU REMEMBER ME?

I'M SORRY...

...I DON'T.

THAT ARMOR OF YOURS, IT DON'T REMEMBER ME?

NO. I'M SORRY.

X-MEN?

WHAT ARE ***X-MEN?***

IT'S SOMETHING FROM THE MUTANT TERRITORIES.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

YOU-YOU GOT OLD.

THE MIND, IT STARTS TO BETRAY YOU.

IT'S CALLED ***COGNITIVE DECLINE.***

YOU'RE FAR FROM HOME.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE.

LET THE MARSHALL TAKE YOU BACK HOME.

YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME.

MAYBE WE COULD EXPERIMENT ON YOU, SYNTHESIZE YOUR BIOLOGY INTO A CURE FOR THE VIRUS--

YEAH.

WELL, I DIDN'T COME THIS FAR...

EASY...

SNIKT

FZZZZ

YOU ALL RIGHT, BARON STARK?
I'VE HAD WORSE.

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?
HE'S DEFIED GOD'S WILL.
YOU KNOW WHERE I AM TAKING HIM.

"THE DEADLANDS.
"PUT THIS MUTANT ANOMALY OUT OF YOUR MIND...
"HE'S ALREADY GONE.
"IT IS DOOM'S WILL."
TO BE CONTINUED...